

## ROOSEVELT ISSUES BRIEF STATEMENT

Colonel Sees No Reason for  
Changing His Attitude.

### PLEASED WITH TAFT LETTER

Not Likely that Former President  
Will Attend State Convention Unless  
It Is Evident "Old Guard" Pol-  
icies Will Not Control—Fears Ex-  
pressed that Letter Is Too Late.

Oyster Bay, Aug. 22.—In a statement which Col. Roosevelt issued to-night, upon hearing of the letter which President Taft sent to Lloyd Griscom, repudiating Vice President Sherman, Col. Roosevelt said that his position in regard to the State situation is definite, and that he has nothing to change in it.

The colonel declared that since the meeting there has been no reason why he should meet the State leaders, and that their action at the meeting has made the situation such that it allows no compromise. He could not tell to-night how far the situation will be changed by the President's letter.

From what the colonel said it is unlikely that he will attend the convention unless he is forced to do so. He has told his friends right along that he wanted to keep out, because he did not desire to get mixed up in a faction fight. He considered that Sherman as temporary chairman would make that stand necessary, but he may change his mind later. Whatever action he does take will not be announced until after his return from his Western trip, which begins to-morrow.

### Gives Out Statement.

The colonel smiled when the President's letter was read to him to-night. He chuckled at certain parts of it. Then he gave out the following statement:

"I am very glad to see President Taft's statement and am pleased with it. "Before the meeting of the State committee I had repeatedly expressed to various leaders, not merely my willingness but my desire to see them. Since the meeting I have not thought that there was any particular object in meeting them as, owing to their action, the situation had become such as to admit of no compromise and I had nothing to add to what I had already said. I may add that I have not changed my mind now. "My position is perfectly defined and I have nothing to change in it. I had never desired the chairmanship and consented to have my name considered on condition only that, in platform and candidate alike, the party should endeavor to achieve success in the only way worth trying. That is, by deserving it by making it evident that the Republican party of the State of New York intends in good faith to serve the interests of all the people of the State. "I cannot speak definitely at the moment of my whole plans, because I do not know how far the situation will be changed by the President's letter, and so I can say nothing more definite to-night."

### Will Confer To-day.

It is expected that both Mr. Griscom and Collector Loeb will confer with Col. Roosevelt before he leaves for Utica in the morning. It is likely that one or both of them will travel part of the way with the Roosevelt party. Mr. Loeb rushed to a telephone this afternoon, soon as he heard that the President had sent his letter, and the collector later broke the news to the colonel. Nicholas Longworth stood by and heard it all, but he passed no comment. Possibly Mr. Longworth may have known that it would come out to-day.

The general impression here is simply that the action by the administration in attempting to secure harmony in New York State by the aid of Col. Roosevelt will not attain the desired ends, unless greater concessions are made than have been suggested yet. The colonel will wait for still further evidence.

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logue, write Brother Director.

## TAFT EXPLAINS.

Continued from Page One.

to be avoided is a controversy in the convention. I am told by Mr. Griscom that such a conference with Mr. Roosevelt might conveniently be had, and would be welcomed by him before the State committee meets on Tuesday. Hope you will be able to report satisfactory solution when you come on Wednesday.

(Signed.) "W. H. TAFT."

### Protected Against Opposition.

"On the afternoon of Monday, August 15, Mr. Sherman telephoned me from New York, and for the first time apprised me of the fact that there was a proposal to oppose Mr. Roosevelt for the temporary chairmanship, and that with Mr. Root's name. No other name than Mr. Root's was mentioned. I protested against the idea of a contest on such a matter, peremptorily declined to be drawn into a fight against Mr. Roosevelt, and again renewed my urgent advice that there be prompt and full personal conference with Mr. Roosevelt before the committee meeting, with a view to securing harmony and victory for the party.

"Mr. Sherman called upon me here on August 17 to meet an engagement of a week's standing, made with him and Mr. Loudenslager to discuss the Congressional campaign text-book. Mr. Loudenslager was prevented from coming by an illness. During the conference with Mr. Sherman I told him that I deplored the result of the meeting of the New York State committee, because unless the break were repaired it meant division between New York Republicans and probably defeat. Upon leaving me, Mr. Sherman agreed to go into a conference with Mr. Roosevelt, provided he were invited to do so, with a view to adjusting the situation if possible even at that late date. Mr. Nicholas Longworth was present, and said he would send a telegram to bring about a conference. What the result has been I do not know.

### Anxious for Harmony.

"Finally, in your telegram received this morning, you state that efforts have been made to create the impression that I favor a particular candidate for election as State chairman. This is absolutely untrue. I have expressed no opinion on the subject since an effort was made last winter by the New York Congressional delegation to secure Mr. Woodruff's retirement, which failed.

"I am sorry indeed to observe columns of unfounded assertions in the newspapers concerning my attitude in respect to the New York situation. You know, however, as well as other New York leaders, that whenever my advice or assistance in reaching a satisfactory adjustment of the difficulties arising has been sought, I have urged the necessity for the fullest conference with Mr. Roosevelt by the members of the organization and, with due deference to honest difference of opinion, have expressed the view, which I still entertain, that the solution of the direct primary issue can be found in provisions similar to those of the Cobb bill as amended in accordance with the memorial signed by Mr. Seth Lov, Mr. Joseph Choate, and other prominent Republicans of New York City. Sincerely yours,

W. H. TAFT.

"Hon. Lloyd C. Griscom, President Republican county committee, 1 Madison avenue, New York."

### Roosevelt Not Consulted.

As Mr. Taft points out, Col. Roosevelt was not consulted before the committee met. In order to carry out their promise to the President, Mr. Ward and Mr. Barnes, it is true, did meet Col. Roosevelt by appointment in the Manhattan Hotel, but that was an hour after the meeting of the State committee.

Mr. Taft, over the long-distance phone and by means of telegraph messages, had expressly told the leaders of the regulars, as the Woodruff-Barnes combination like to call themselves, that if there was any disaffection likely to arise at the meeting his name was not to be used, and that on the contrary, in the interests of harmony, he wished that the members of the State committee should consult before the meeting with Mr. Griscom and Col. Roosevelt.

Mr. Griscom, after the meeting on Tuesday, stated that Mr. Taft had told him that he would do nothing which would seem antagonistic to Col. Roosevelt, and Mr. Griscom stated further that he was sure that the statements made by Mr. Woodruff, Mr. Barnes, and the others who led the movement for the choice of Mr. Sherman, that their action had been sanctioned by Mr. Taft, was entirely without foundation.

### Put in Annapolis Club.

When Mr. Woodruff, just after the meeting, was told what Mr. Griscom had said, the State chairman intimated that Mr. Griscom ought to be enrolled as a member of the Annapolis Club. He said that Mr. Sherman, with whom he had had a long talk on the night before, had spoken with Mr. Taft over the phone as had also Mr. Ward, and that both had been assured by the President that it should be announced at the meeting that the selection of Mr. Sherman had his approval.

So far from Mr. Taft sending any such message to either of these men, he sent a telegram to Mr. Sherman, insisting that before any action was taken by the committee, Col. Roosevelt should be consulted with, and that if there was need, reasonable concessions should be made with the progressives, both with regard to platform and candidates.

Former Assemblyman Norwin K. Hart, of Utica, fresh from a conference he had with Col. Roosevelt on Friday, made a speech in his home city on Saturday, in which he asserted that Mr. Sherman had received a letter or a communication by telegram from Mr. Taft, and that he had suppressed this.

Mr. Sherman left New York for his home on the Monday night before the meeting of the Republican State committee, and it was stated for him by Mr. Woodruff and the other leaders of the regulars who were in town that Mr. Sherman had consented to have his name presented as the choice of the committee for temporary chairman of the convention, and that in taking this course he was acting in accordance with the wishes of Mr. Taft.

### Sherman Suppressed Telegram.

The letter written to-day by President Taft to Mr. Griscom shows that there was no such understanding, and it shows further that there are good grounds for the charge made by Mr. Hart that Mr. Sherman suppressed a telegram he had received from Mr. Taft, the telegram being a suggestion that nothing should be done at the meeting of the committee without first conferring with Col. Roosevelt.

The letter from President Taft to Mr. Griscom does away altogether with the wild stories which have been floating around for more than a week past to the effect that there is a break between Mr. Taft and Col. Roosevelt, as this letter shows the President had nothing to do with the turning down of Mr. Roosevelt by the State committee. It was, in

fact, his hope that there should be harmony at the meeting.

When the news of the result of the meeting reached the President, he was told that Col. Roosevelt was inclined to blame him for what occurred, and Taft was advised by some of his closest friends to come out with a statement showing that so far from doing anything which might split the Republican party in this State, he had, on the contrary, advised that nothing should be done which would tend to show that there was even a semblance of a possibility of a break between himself and the former President.

### Reluctant to Take Part.

Mr. Taft at that time refused to follow the advice. He told the friends who counseled him to make his position clear that to do so would put him in the light of taking an active interest in the party affairs of this State. He explained to them that, while, of course, he was interested in the Republican situation in New York State, he thought it would be improper for him to make any statement along the line suggested by his friends for the reason that it would be going against the policy he had laid out for himself of not interfering in any way with any local or State fights.

Until about Friday or Saturday last Mr. Taft intended to stick to this policy, but in response to suggestions made to him that if the idea should be allowed to continue that he was even indirectly responsible for the rejection of Col. Roosevelt as temporary chairman of the State convention the result would be that the Republican party would be in an even worse condition when the campaign opened than it is now.

### Forced to Write Letter.

It was then that Mr. Taft consented to make it clear that he had never raised so much as a finger to defeat Col. Roosevelt for the temporary chairmanship of the convention; that he had always been opposed to any suggestion of a contest at the meeting of the State committee against Mr. Roosevelt, that he had made this plain to Mr. Sherman, that Mr. Sherman, in the presence of Representative Nicholas Longworth, had promised him nothing that would be done with regard to the selection or rejection of Col. Roosevelt until in the interest of harmony Mr. Roosevelt had been consulted.

Mr. Taft, in his letter to Mr. Griscom, states that Mr. Sherman agreed to this stipulation, but, according to Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Griscom, the promise was never carried out. The Woodruff-Barnes element of the Republican State committee has intimated that Mr. Taft is not in favor of the direct primary bill.

Mr. Taft in his letter says that this is not true of his attitude and that, in fact, he is in favor of such a direct primary measure as that provided for in the Cobb bill.

The letter to Mr. Griscom is of especial interest for the reason that Mr. Taft has changed his mind as to expressing his opinion on the situation in this State and of answering the report that he is no longer in sympathy with Col. Roosevelt's policies. And further because of the fact that in sending this letter to Mr. Griscom it was with the understanding that it should be made public, too.

### Make Fight for Delegate.

If the regulars persist in their determination to endeavor to have Mr. Sherman elected as temporary chairman of the State convention they will undoubtedly have a bigger fight on their hands than they expect. It was said to-day by Mr. Griscom that in many of the up-State counties the primaries will show that the vote of the leaders who sided with the Sherman resolution does not indicate the feelings of the majority of the voters of these districts.

It has been figured out at the Republican county headquarters that with the possible exception of William Barnes, of Albany, not one of the leaders who voted against Roosevelt can vote his delegates as a unit in the convention. Col. Roosevelt may go to the convention as a delegate, and if so may make a fight from the floor for the platform to be advocated by the progressive element of the party.

Although for a few days last week Mr. Roosevelt had made up his mind, following the vote at the State committee meeting, it can be asserted that in view of Mr. Taft's explanation of his attitude, Col. Roosevelt will not only fight for the progressive platform, but will allow himself to be named as a candidate against Mr. Sherman for temporary chairman of the convention. Mr. Roosevelt's friends are confident that he will be elected.

They have figured it out that even if the regulars can control all the votes they claim they would not have a majority of more than about fifty, and they said to-day that as several of the State committeemen who voted for Mr. Sherman are Federal officeholders, and as they voted as they did under the misinformation given to them, that Mr. Taft desired the selection of Mr. Sherman, it could be expected, in view of the statement issued to-day by Mr. Taft, that they would change their votes at the convention.

### Expect to Control.

That Mr. Griscom has no doubt of the ability of the progressive wing of the party to control the convention is shown in this statement which he issued to-day at the same time that he gave out the Taft letter.

"The methods used to accomplish the defeat of Mr. Roosevelt when his name was before the State committee are now clear to the public, and may be judged by the public.

"Those personally acquainted with Mr. Taft's views were, of course, never in doubt that his advice had been ignored, and that his attitude was misrepresented in order that those who misrepresented him might appear as the defenders of his administration.

"I have not the slightest doubt that the action of the State committee will be reversed and that Mr. Roosevelt, if his engagements will permit him to accept, will act as temporary chairman of the convention, making the keynote speech. As president of the New York Republican County committee I shall actively co-operate with Republicans throughout the State who believe it in the interests of the party that this result be brought about.

"Mr. Taft's reply to my telegram discloses that the reports, industriously circulated, of a supposed conflict between the President and the former President on New York State matters, are baseless. "The way is now clear for the Republican party in this State to take steps which will warrant and secure success at the polls in November. It is evident that some of the so-called 'old guard' are not seeking Republican success at the coming election, they wish to perpetuate their control of the Republican organization at any cost to the party.

"The defeat which their plans invited upon the shoulders of President Taft, by making it appear that he failed to further the policies of Gov. Hughes and Mr. Roosevelt in this State.

"The alliance of some of the 'old



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York October 1.

### SHERMAN NOT INTERESTED

IN NEW TURN OF AFFAIRS.

Utica, Aug. 22.—Vice President Sherman, who returned here to-day from Big Moose, where he spent Sunday with Mrs. Sherman, to-night absolutely refused to discuss President Taft's letter. Not only did Mr. Sherman refuse to discuss the President's statement, but he also declined to read to-night the chapter Mr. Taft unexpectedly wrote into the tangled New York State Republican situation. Likewise, he refused to read the statements by Col. Roosevelt and Chairman Griscom.

Mr. Sherman was entirely unperturbed by the new angle to the controversy so suddenly developed, and betrayed absolutely no concern in the various statements in which he figures so prominently.

The Vice President planned to go to New York to-night on matters pertaining to his speech-making in the Congressional campaign, which work he is to inaugurate next Saturday in Illinois. Subsequently pressing business matters which require his attention developed in Watertown, and to-morrow he will run up into Northern New York.

Mr. Sherman was invited to deliver a speech at Summit Park here to-morrow on the occasion of former President Roosevelt's visit, but the important matter in Watertown compelled him to decline. The Vice President let it be known, however, that if it were possible to arrange matters, he would be glad to aid in the welcome to Col. Roosevelt.

### DWIGHT FAVORS SCHURMAN.

Republican Whip/Likes Chances of  
Ithaca for Governor.

Ithaca, Aug. 22.—Representative John W. Dwight, Republican whip in the House of Representatives, and one of those who wanted Col. Theodore Roosevelt for temporary chairman of the Republican State convention, says that the colonel will be heard as a delegate on the floor of the convention, and he is sure that the colonel will have more opportunity to express his views as a delegate than as chairman.

Mr. Dwight is going to the convention with a boom for President Jacob G. Schurman, of Cornell University, for governor. It is understood here that Mr. Dwight has been canvassing this section of the State for Schurman, and it is reported that many Western New York leaders are in favor of his nomination.

### SEVENTEEN PERFECT SCORES.

Four Munsey Tour Cars Lose Their  
Positions in Vermont.

Burlington, Vt., Aug. 22.—The seventh day of the Munsey tour ended here this evening with four more cars losing their positions in the scoring. The Elmore, Frank Hardart's entry, from Philadelphia, was disqualified because the factory did not file within the stipulated time the maker's certificate with the contest board.

The Great Western driving car Montpelier ran into the side of a covered bridge to avoid striking a woman driving a team, and smashed the right front wheel, bent the front axle, and damaged the fenders. It did not report at the night control this evening, but word was received at official headquarters that it would report at 5 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Ford No. 30 was penalized for a strut rod socket, and the Crawford car developed differential trouble when near St. Johnsbury. The men repaired the difficulty, and the car reported at the night control this evening shortly after 7 o'clock.

Only seventeen of the contesting cars now retain perfect scores. They are the Columbia, the two Washington cars, the Ford No. 8, the Ford No. 34, the Corbin, Brush, Regal Plunger, Pierce Racine, Enger, Kirt, Cline, Stoddard-Dayton, Maxwell No. 25, Kline, and the Matheson.

### MANY WILL HEAR ROOSEVELT.

Mills in Utica District Will Close at  
Noon To-day.

Utica, Aug. 22.—All the mills in Utica, Whitesboro, and Oriskany will, close at noon to permit their several thousand employees to get up to Summit Park to-morrow to hear Col. Roosevelt's speech, while excursions on all the railroads entering Utica will bring other thousands to swell the great crowd that will be on hand when the colonel motors over from Oriskany station in the automobile of his brother-in-law, Douglas Robinson.

The electric railroad has arranged to transport 20,000 people to Summit Park, where the State Grangers and the G. A. R. have their picnic.

### MOOSE IN CONVENTION.

Thousands New Members Are Initiated  
in Baltimore.

Baltimore, Aug. 22.—With upward of 1,500 delegates in attendance from all parts of the country, including the far West, the twenty-second annual convention of the Loyal Order of Moose was opened at the Maryland Theater here this morning. Gov. Crothers and State's Attorney Owen, in behalf of Mayor Mahon, who is absent, welcomed the visitors to the State and city.

Tonight there was one of the largest initiation ceremonies which the order has ever known, 1,000 new members taking the oath.

## HEARST TO NAME FULL STATE TICKET

Independence League Sends  
Notice to State Official.

### Dr. J. J. Rucker Dead.

Lexington, Ky., Aug. 22.—Dr. J. J. Rucker, for fifty-three years a teacher of mathematics in Georgetown College, died at Georgetown to-day in his eighty-fourth year. He was born in Howard County, Mo., coming to Kentucky when quite young and taking a degree. He graduated at law in Richmond, Va., and was principal of the Georgetown Female Seminary until it combined with Georgetown College.

In the league's State convention the basis of representation will be one delegate from each assembly district for each 100 votes cast for Clarence J. Shearn, who was the league's candidate for governor in 1908.

There will also be named candidates for Supreme Court justices in several districts.

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